

X
cmx

entirety. U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/309,001, is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/759,445, which issued on July 6, 1999 as U.S. Patent No. 5,919,535.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims ~~1-32, 61-92 and 125-133~~ without prejudice.

Please amend claims 45, 97, 101, 106 and 109 as follows:

X
v

45. (Once Amended) A fastener for a plastic bag, comprising:
a male track including a male profile and a first fin portion; and
a female track including a female profile and a second fin portion, said male and female profiles having complementary cross-sections, at least one of said fin portions made from a first resin selected from the group consisting of an ultra low density polyethylene, a very low density polyethylene, and a metallocene-catalyzed polyethylene, said first resin having a polydispersity of from about 1 to about 4, a melt index of from about 0.2 to about 20 g/10 min., and a melt flow ratio of from about 12 to about 35, and a second resin which is a low density polyethylene, at least one of said fin portions [fins] comprising from about 5 to about 50 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 50 to about 95 wt.% of said second resin.

A
v

97. (Once Amended) The fastener of Claim 93, wherein said first resin is a metallocene-catalyzed linear low density polyethylene [an elastomer].

A
v

101. (Once Amended) The fastener of Claim 100, wherein at least one of the fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 60 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 40 to about 50 [60] wt.% of said second resin.

A
v

106. (Once Amended) The fastener of Claim 105, wherein each of the fin portions comprises from about 50 to about 60 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 40 to about [60] 50 wt.% of said second resin.

A
v

109. (Once Amended) A fastener for a plastic bag, comprising:
a male track including a male profile and a first fin portion; and

AMENDMENT

a female track including a female profile and a second fin portion, said male and female profiles having complementary cross-sections, at least one of said fin portions made from a first resin selected from the group consisting of an ultra low density polyethylene, a very low density polyethylene, and a metallocene-catalyzed linear low density polyethylene, said first resin having a polydispersity of from about 1 to about 4, a melt index of from about 0.2 to about 20 g/10 min., and a melt flow ratio of from about 12 to about 35, and a second resin which is a low density polyethylene, at least one of said fins comprising from about 50 to about 90 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 10 to about 50 [90] wt.% of said second resin.

AMENDMENT

Please add claims 134 and 135 as follows:

-134. A fastener for a plastic bag, comprising:

a male track including a male profile and a first fin portion; and

a female track including a female profile and a second fin portion, said male and female profiles having complementary cross-sections, at least one of said fin portions is made from an ultra low density polyethylene, said first resin having a polydispersity of from about 1 to about 4, a melt index of from about 0.2 to about 20 g/10 min., and a melt flow ratio of from about 12 to about 35, and a second resin which is a low density polyethylene, at least one of said fin portions comprising from about 25 to about 75 wt.% of said first resin, and from about 25 to about 75 wt.% of said second resin.

135. The fastener of Claim 134, wherein said first and second fin portions are attached. --

REMARKS

Claims 45, 97, 101, 106 and 109 have been amended in the present application. Claims 1-32, 61-92 and 125-133 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 134 and 135 have been added to the present application. Thus, claims 33-60, 93-124, 134 and 135 are in the application after entry of the above amendments. The proposed claims are believed to be consistent with the specification and drawings, and are believed to be in a condition for allowance.

Information Disclosure Statement

The Applicants have also enclosed an Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) in which the Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner review these references and make them of record.

Conclusion

The Applicants believe that the claims are allowable over the prior art of record and are in condition for allowance.

If there are any matters which may be resolved or clarified through a telephone interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the Applicants' undersigned attorney at the number indicated.

Respectfully submitted,



John C. Gatz
Reg. No. 41,774
Jenkens & Gilchrist
225 West Washington Street, Suite 2600
Chicago, Illinois 60606
(312) 425-3900
Attorney for Applicants

Date: January 14, 2002